DISNEY

Dracula

STARRING MICKEY MOUSE

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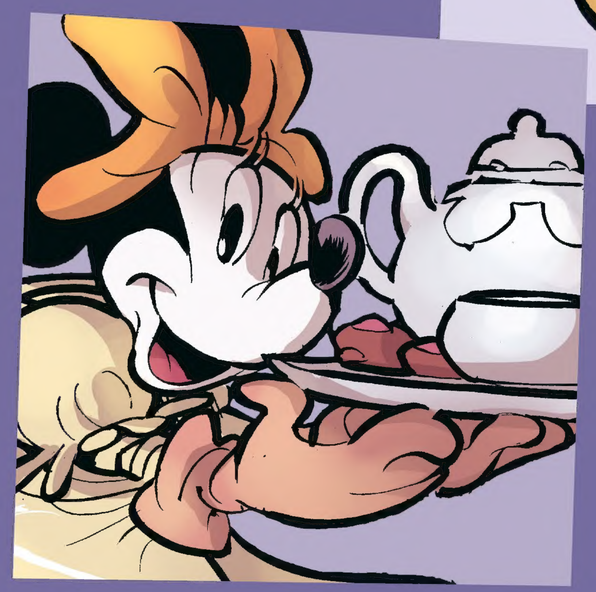

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Dracula

STARRING

MICKEY MOUSE

Script by ..... BRUNO ENNA

Art by ..... FABIO CELONI

Colors by ..... MIRKA ANDOLFO

English Translation by ..... ERIN BRADY

Lettering by ..... RICHARD STARKINGS
and COMICRAFT'S JIMMY BETANCOURT

Based on the classic novel by
BRAM STOKER

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DISNEY DRACULA, STARRING MICKEY MOUSE

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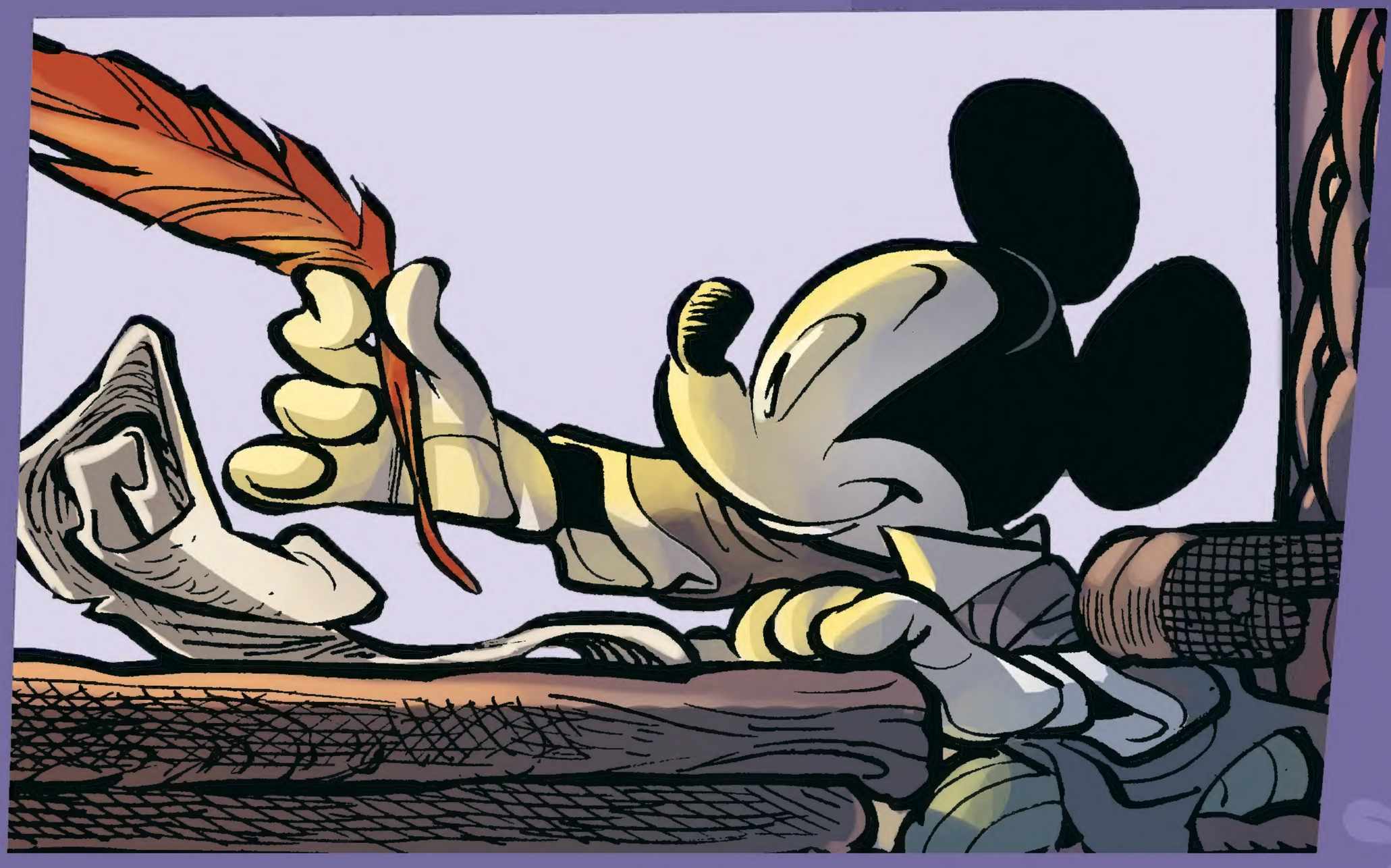
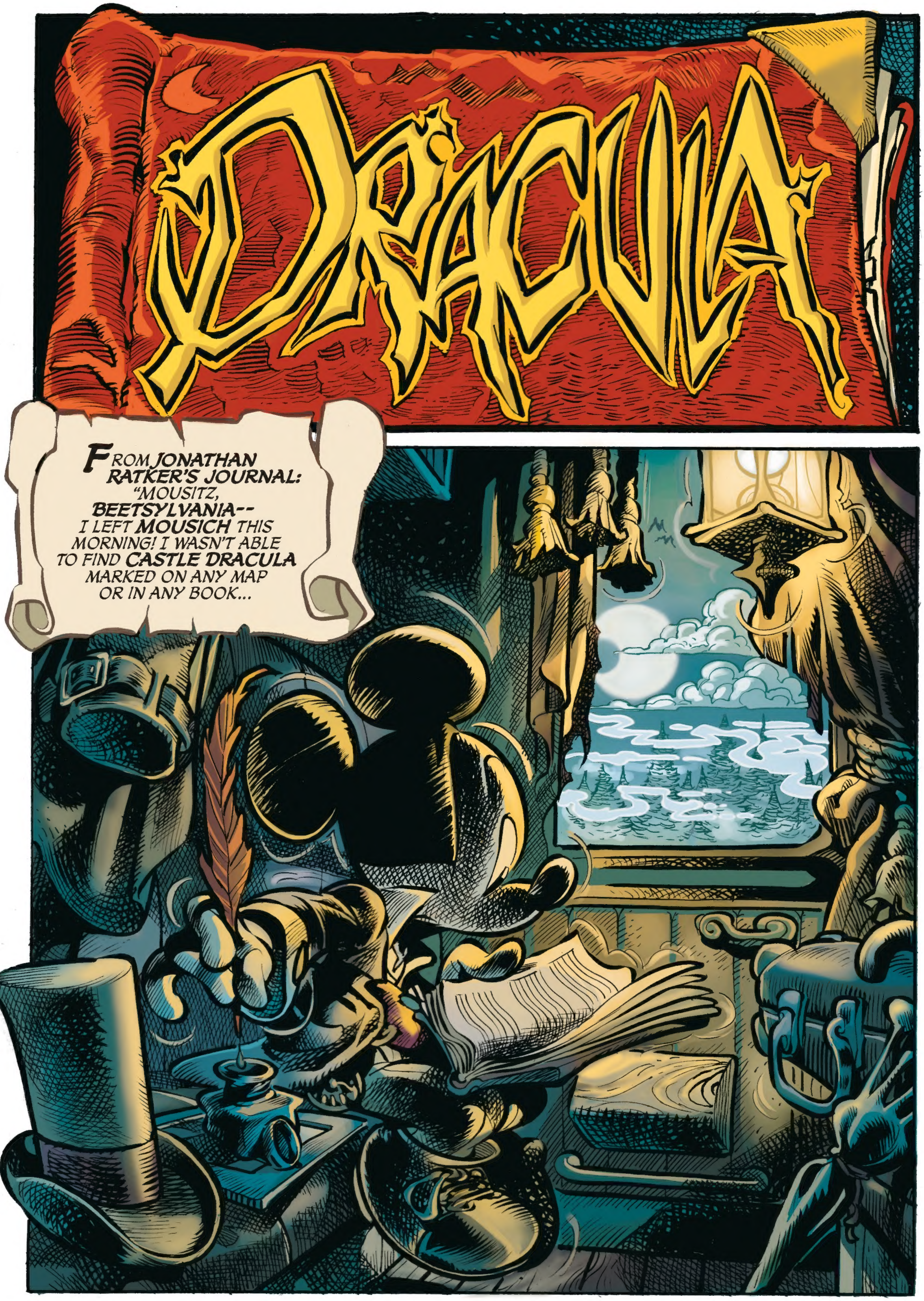



DRACULA
FROM JONATHAN RATKER'S JOURNAL: "MOUSITZ, BEETSYLVANIA-- I LEFT MOUSICH THIS MORNING! I WASN'T ABLE TO FIND CASTLE DRACULA MARKED ON ANY MAP OR IN ANY BOOK...

"I DIDN'T SLEEP WELL BECAUSE OF BAD DREAMS! A WOLF WAS HOWLING AT MY WINDOW ALL NIGHT!"

HOOOOOOOWWWWWL

"SHORTLY BEFORE I LEFT THE INN, A CLEANING WOMAN GAVE ME..."

"...A LETTER FROM THE COUNT, WHICH WENT MORE OR LESS LIKE THIS..."

My friend, welcome to the **Carpathian Mountains,** a **cheery** little place! My coach awaits you at the **Borgo Pass!** You'll set off **at night!** The air will be cooler and the scenery **merrier!**

Your friend,
Dracula

"AS I LEFT THE INN, THE WOMAN WHISPERED STRANGE WORDS IN MY EAR..."

TONIGHT! NO LIGHT! A FRIGHT!

"THE EYES OF THE MAN DRIVING THE COACH LOOK LIKE BURNING EMBERS!

"HIS HORSES ARE BLACKER THAN COAL, AND THEY SEEM TO **SCREECH LIKE BATS** AS THEY RUN ALONG THE BUMPY ROAD!

"I HAVE TO GO! WE'RE COMING UP TO A CASTLE! IT WOULD BE A PLEASANT PLACE IF THERE WERE ANY LIGHT IN ITS DARK WINDOWS!"

WELCOME TO MY HUMBLE ABODE! PLEASE, COME IN! ENTER OF YOUR OWN FREE WILL!

UM... THANKS, BUT I CAN STAY OUT HERE! IF YOU BRING A LITTLE TABLE AND TWO CHAIRS...

I INSIST!

?

YOU MUST BE *JONATHAN RATKER!*

A-AND YOU MUST BE THE FAMOUS COUNT...

IS THERE A PROBLEM?

TH-THE DRIVER! THE HORSES! THEY WERE THERE A SECOND AGO...

COME! IT'S ***ESSENTIAL*** THAT YOU GET TO WORK IMMEDIATELY!

SOON AFTER...

...AND THE CURRENT *COUNT VLAD III OF THE PHANTOM BLOT* DESIRES...

...TO BUY THE LONDON PROPERTIES LISTED AND THE VILLA LOCATED IN *CARFAX!*

GOOD! NOW ALL THAT'S LEFT TO DO IS SIGN THE PURCHASE CONTRACTS, AS AGREED TO WITH THE *LEGAL FIRM* THAT I REPRESENT!

OF COURSE! BUT FIRST, TELL ME... HOW DO I LOOK? IS MY WIG OKAY?

YES! OF COURSE!

CAN I ASK WHY YOU'VE DECIDED TO MOVE TO ENGLAND?

OH! THE *CLIMATE'S* BETTER! THE *FOG* IS CHILLIER! AND THE *PEOPLE*, WELL...

COMPARED TO MY OWN PEOPLE, YOU'RE VERY... IF YOU'LL PERMIT THE EXPRESSION... *HOT-BLOODED!*

FROM JONATHAN RATKER'S JOURNAL: "CASTLE DRACULA, BEETSYLVANIA--MY DEAR, LOVELY **MINNINA!** I'M WRITING TO YOU BECAUSE I HOPE THAT ONE DAY YOU WILL BE ABLE TO READ MY WORDS!

"YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THE RESIDENTS OF THIS AREA ARE MUCH LIVELIER THAN THE COUNT SAYS..."

VROLOK! VROLOK!

ARF ARF

"IN FACT, ANYONE BRAVE ENOUGH TO APPROACH THE CASTLE SHOOTS AT ANY **HOWLING** OR **FLUTTERING** CREATURE!"

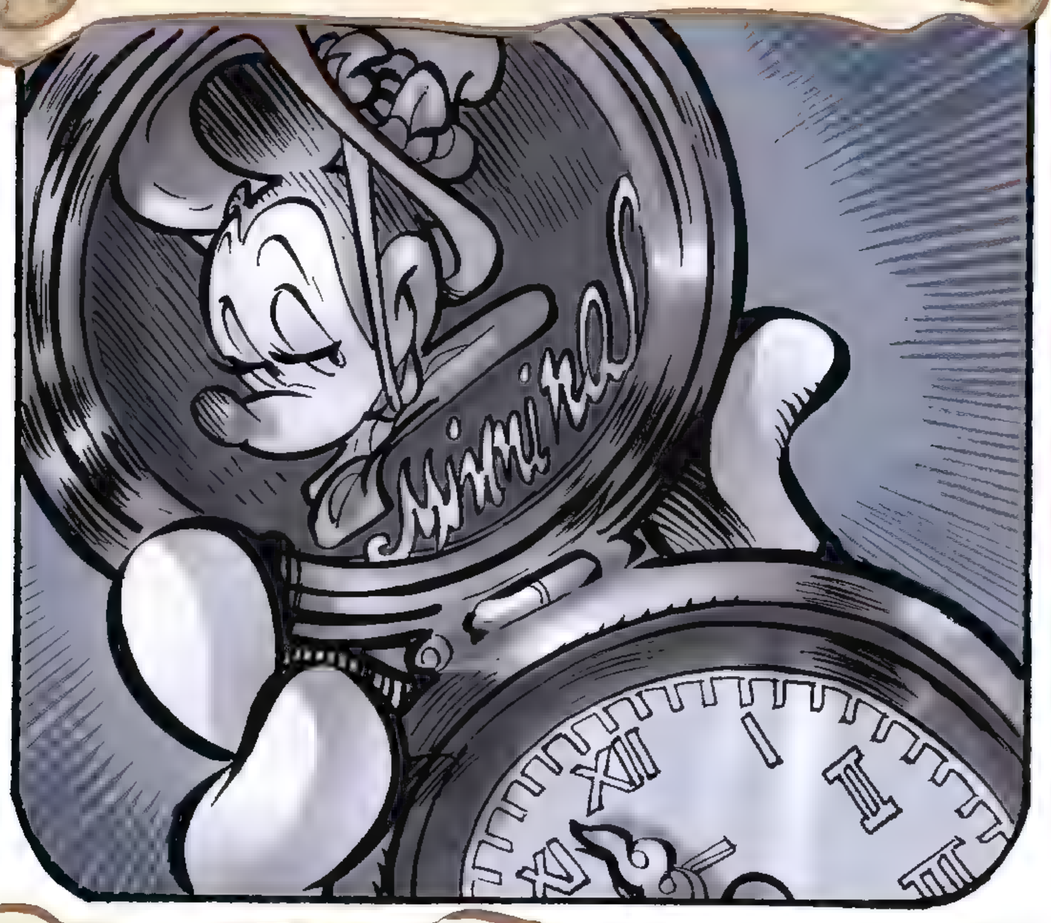
BANG

BANG

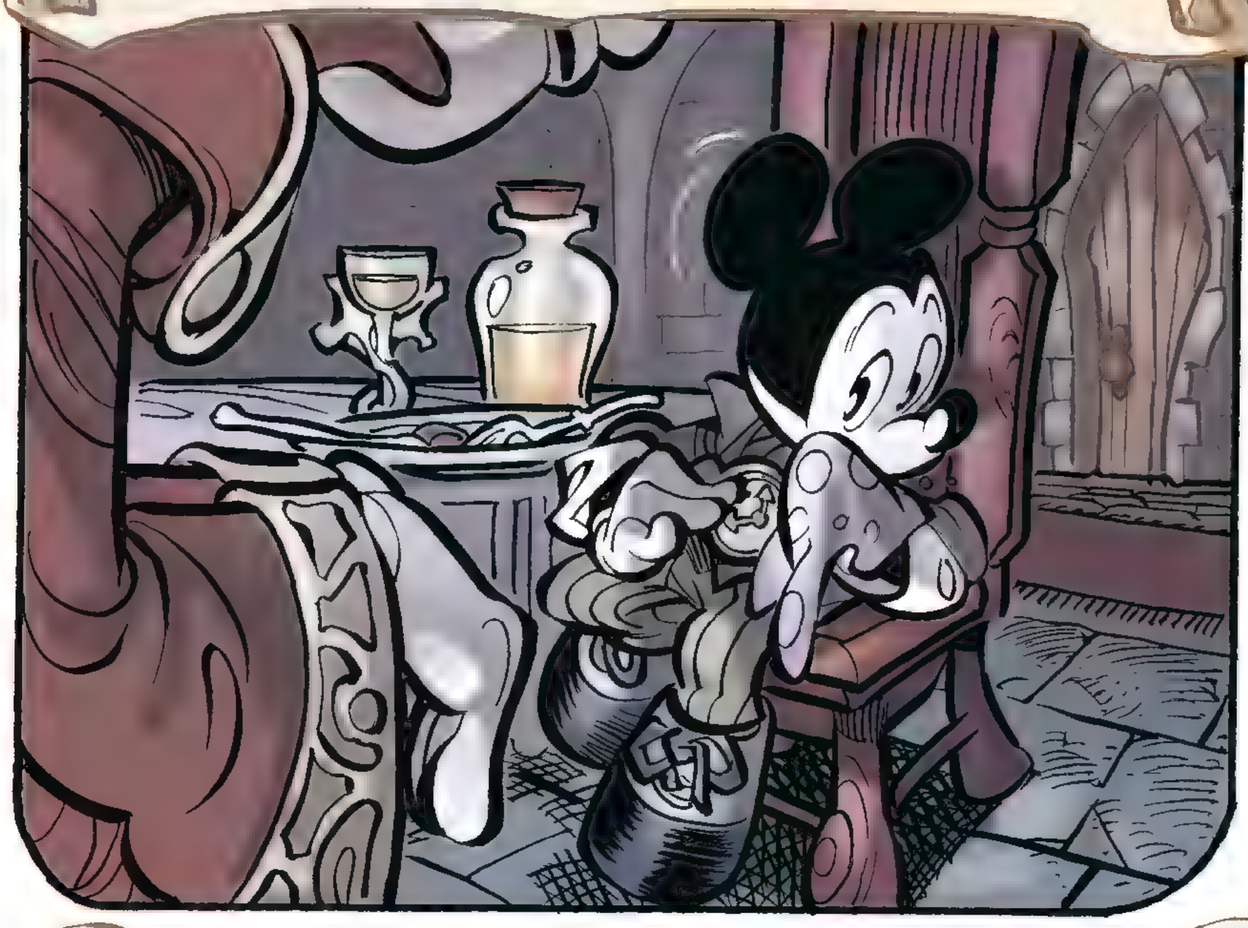
"BUT THE CREEPIEST ONE OF ALL IS **DRACULA!** HE ONLY APPEARS IN THE LATE EVENING, AND HE DOESN'T EAT ANYTHING, BUT HE WATCHES ME WHILE I HAVE MY MEALS!

"THAT'S WHEN HE ASKS ME ABOUT YOU! AND I (AS IF HYPNOTIZED) AM FORCED TO REVEAL INTIMATE DETAILS OF OUR LIFE!

"I TOLD HIM THAT YOU'RE NOW AT **RATBY,** A GUEST OF YOUR FRIEND **CLARA-LUCIA WESTERNA!**

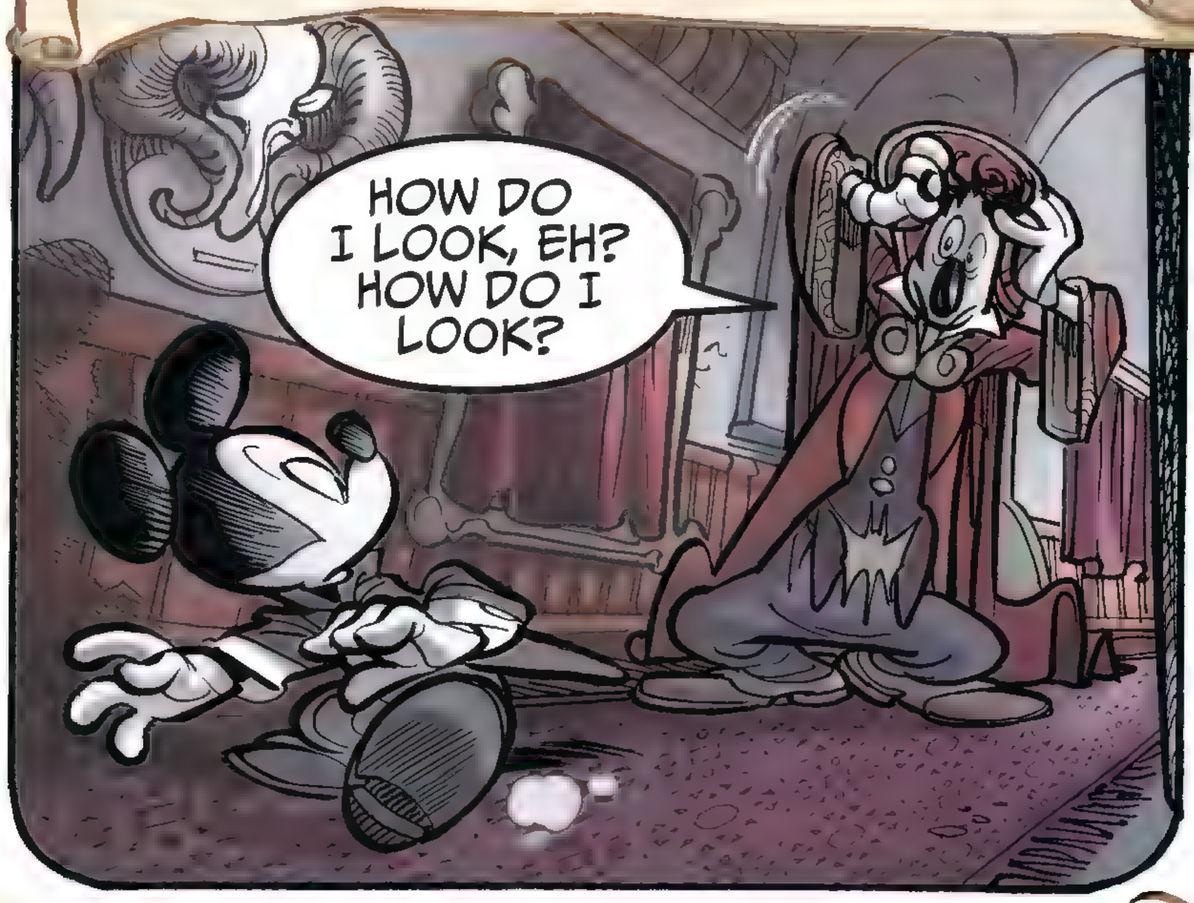


"I EVEN REVEALED THE FACT THAT SOMETIMES I FORGET TO **BRUSH MY TEETH** BEFORE GOING TO BED...

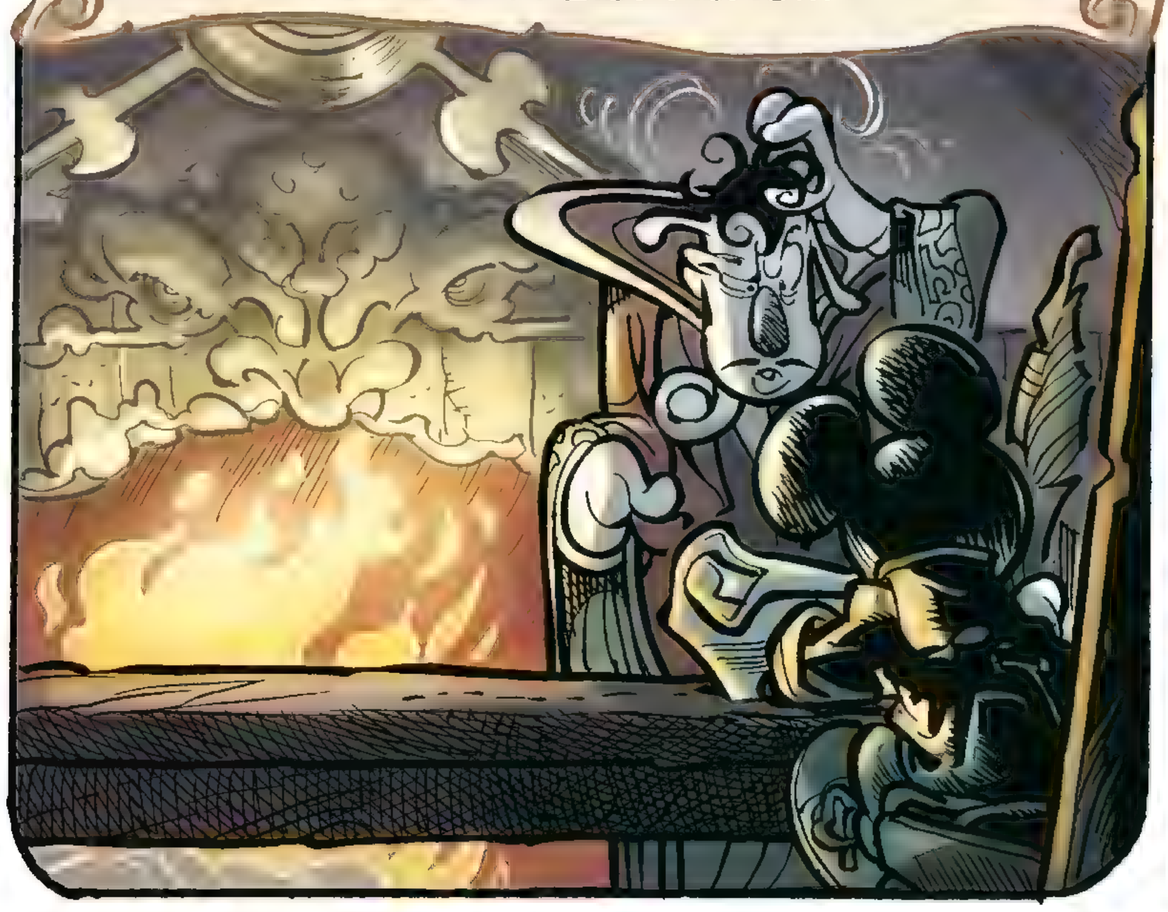


"HE ALWAYS SEEMS TO LISTEN **VERY ATTENTIVELY!**

"THE COUNT DOESN'T LIKE **MIRRORS!** BUT HE'S QUITE **VAIN,** SO THIS ALWAYS SEEMS TO CAUSE HIM PROBLEMS!"



"HE DOESN'T LET ME GO OUT, AND A WHILE AGO, HE ASKED ME TO WRITE YOU SOME **LETTERS...**



"...MISSIVES THAT ARE SUPPOSED TO REASSURE YOU BUT WHICH ALL BEGIN LIKE THIS: **DEAR MINNINA, FORGET ME..."**

BOO-HOO!

CHEER UP! DON'T BE LIKE THIS! YOU KNOW HOW MICE ARE!

:SNIFF!: HOW?

WELL! THEY HAVE THOSE HUGE EARS, AND ALSO...

AHEM...

DO YOU MIND IF I BLOW MY *DELICATE LITTLE NOSE* TOO?

LIFE IS SO UNFAIR! YOU'RE SO *GRACEFUL* AND *REFINED!* WHILE I--

HOOONK

NOT TO MENTION THE FACT THAT MY *ONLY* BOYFRIEND IS WRITING TO TELL ME...

...TO *FORGET ABOUT HIM,* WHILE YOU HAVE NO FEWER THAN *THREE SUITORS!*

OH, YES! AND *WHAT* SUITORS THEY ARE!

*"**BUZ SETTON,** THE DIRECTOR OF A SHELTER FOR MERRY SAILORS WHO HAVE **LOST THEIR WITS...***

*"...**ROCKY P. SASSIS,** THE TEXAN ADVENTURER AND GREAT HUNTER OF **WILD RACCOONS...**"*

...AND ESPECIALLY *HORACE SORCHWOOD,* A YOUTH FROM A NOBLE FAMILY! A REAL GENTLEMAN WITH A TOOTHY SMILE!

AND YOU HAVE A *WEAKNESS* FOR PERFECT TEETH, DON'T YOU? =SNIFF!=

REMEMBER, MY DEAR! MEN DON'T REALLY HAVE *STYLE*...

...UNLESS THEY'VE GOT *HORSY* SMILES! HEE HEE!

YOUR UNIQUE WAY OF SEEING THINGS ALWAYS AMAZES ME!

WE GREW UP TOGETHER, MINNINA...

...AND WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS DIFFICULT TIME TOGETHER! COME ON! I'LL ORGANIZE A PARTY IN YOUR HONOR!

BUT... MY JONATHAN...

DON'T YOU EVEN MENTION THAT OAF'S NAME! FROM NOW ON, I HAVE ONLY ONE MISSION! AND THAT'S...

...TO MAKE YOU *FORGET HIM* FOR GOOD!

FROM JONATHAN RATKER'S JOURNAL: "CASTLE DRACULA, BEETSYLVANIA-- BELOVED MINNINA! I HOPE YOU HAVEN'T **FORGOTTEN ME!** I MUST CLING TO THIS THOUGHT!

"I FEAR THE COUNT IS PLANNING TO GO TO ENGLAND! HE HAS PREPARED SOME **GLOOMY CASKETS** AND IS HAVING THEM TAKEN AWAY!

"I HAVE TO ESCAPE THIS PRISON, BUT I'M SHUT AWAY IN MY ROOMS!"

BLAM BLAM

"AND ALSO, THREE HORRIBLE CREATURES ARE PREVENTING MY ESCAPE! THEY'RE KNOCKING AT MY DOOR RIGHT NOW..."

THUMP THUMP

"...AND THEY FEED ON...OH, I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN BRING MYSELF TO WRITE IT..."

THUMP THUMP THUMP

"...THEY FEED ON..."

...EARTH!

SHIP'S LOG

ARE YOU SURE?

OF COURSE! THIS SHIP IS CARRYING CASKETS THAT ARE FILLED WITH *EARTH FROM BEETSYLVANIA!*

THEY'RE ALL TO BE DELIVERED TO THE ENGLISH HOMES OF A CERTAIN *COUNT DRACULA!* THAT FELLOW MUST BE VERY ATTACHED TO HIS *NATIVE SOIL!*

BUT THAT DOESN'T EXPLAIN HOW THIS SHIP GOT ALL THE WAY TO *RATBY* IN A HUGE STORM AND WITH *NO CREW!*

DEMETER

IN ALL MY YEARS WORKING AT THE PORT, I'VE NEVER--

AWOOO!

?

F-FEEL FREE TO MAKE A JOKE ABOUT *SEA DOGS* NOW!

FRUMP

ARE YOU JUST GOING TO LET IT GO?

WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO? ASK FOR ITS *PAPERS?*

IT'S JUST A POOR BEAST THAT GOT TRAPPED ON THIS BOAT...

"...WHAT HARM COULD IT DO?"

AWOOOOO!

THAT WOLF AGAIN! IT'S BEEN HANGIN' AROUND FOR A WHILE NOW! BUT IF I CAN GET ONE CLEAR SHOT--

WE'RE NOT IN THE WILD WEST HERE, ROCKY! PEOPLE DON'T HUNT WILD ANIMALS--OR CUTE *LITTLE BEARS*, EITHER!

RACCOONS CAN BE VERY *DANGEROUS*, YOU KNOW!

MY FRIENDS! I'M A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT OUR CLARA-LUCIA!

SHE SAYS SHE'S NOT SLEEPING WELL!

I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT HER SUDDEN PASSION FOR *BEETS!*

LOOK! BEET TARTS! ALL KINDS OF BEET DISHES...

YUM! AND HAVE YOU TRIED THE *BEET PUNCH?*

WHAT DOES IT MATTER? UNTIL WE HEAR THE TINKLE OF HER *DELICATE, SILVERY LAUGH* AGAIN, WE WON'T--

HAH! HAH! HAH!

GULP!

HAH! HAH! HAH!

WAAA-HEEEEE...

SO CLASSY!

WHAT A COW!

WHAT *LUNGS!*

WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING LIKE THAT? I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING FUNNY!

DEAR MINNINA! DO I HAVE TO TEACH YOU EVERYTHING?

TO ATTRACT THE INTEREST OF A MAN, YOU FIRST NEED TO PRETEND TO IGNORE HIM AND THEN--

LET HIM HAVE A *SNUGGLE!*

SORRY, WHAT?

NEVER MIND! IT'S JUST THAT INSTEAD OF DISTRACTING ME, THESE PARTIES ARE MAKING ME THINK OF JONATHAN!

DON'T THINK ME INSENSITIVE, BUT HAVE YOU TRIED THE TARTS?

NO, THANKS! YOU KNOW I CAN'T STAND BEETS...

SCARFF SLURPP

?

IN A NUTSHELL...

I MUST SEND YOU AWAY WITH MY FRIEND'S APOLOGIES! AS YOU KNOW, SHE'S VERY TIRED! SHE HASN'T BEEN SLEEPING WELL!

IT'S ON ACCOUNT OF THAT DANG NOISY BEAST! BUT IF I MANAGE TO GET IT IN MY SIGHTS...

GIVE HER OUR BEST WISHES AND TELL HER WE'LL COME SEE HER SOON!

OF COURSE! YOU CAN COUNT ON IT!

I UNDERSTAND WHY HE'S WORRIED! CLARABELLE'S BEHAVIOR IS MAKING ME WONDER, TOO, AND...

CLAK

=GULP!= WHERE DID SHE GO? I LEFT HER RIGHT HERE IN BED!

POOR DEAR! IS SHE A *SLEEPWALKER?* SHE CAN'T HAVE GONE FAR IN HER NIGHTGOWN!

THERE SHE IS, NEAR OUR FAVORITE BENCH! BUT...

...WHO...

CLARA! CLARA-LUCIA!

?

"I DON'T KNOW **WHAT IT WAS!** FOR A MOMENT IT LOOKED LIKE A **MAN**...

"...BUT THEN, AFTER THE FOG CLEARED, I THOUGHT I SAW A **WOLF** IN HIS PLACE..."

POOF...

"...AND THEN AN OSTRICH..."

POOF

"...AND FINALLY (PLEASE DON'T THINK I'VE LOST MY WITS!) A BAT!"

POOF...

I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE *OSTRICH!*

HOW IS SHE DOING NOW?

IT'S HARD TO SAY! WE CAME BACK WITHOUT SEEING A LIVING SOUL, BUT CLARA-LUCIA SEEMED *DISTRACTED* AND JUST KEPT REPEATING...

OH! COME WITH ME! HEAR IT FOR YOURSELVES!

BEETS IN TUNA SAUCE! BEET CARPACCIO WITH ORANGES...

DO YOU HEAR HOW SENSELESS IT IS?

OF COURSE!

ORANGES WITH BEETS... *YUCK!*

THE DOCTORS DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

THEY'RE ALL AT SEA, AND NOT JUST BECAUSE WE'RE BY THE SHORE!

LISTEN! MY JOB HAS LED ME TO CORRESPOND WITH ALL KINDS OF EMINENT SCHOLARS...

...BUT THERE'S ONE WHO SPECIALIZES IN *SUPERNATURAL EVENTS AND VEGETABLES!*

A MIGHTY CURIOUS COMBO!

IT'S A SIGN, I'D SAY! LET ME WRITE TO THIS AUTHORITY ON THE SUBJECT! HE'LL COME RIGHT AWAY! HIS NAME IS...

...GOOFY VAN HELSING!

...AND SO, *MANDRAKE PLANT*, FAMOUS FOR UNNATURAL PROPERTIES, HAS ROOTS THAT LOOK LIKE MAN! YOU KNEW THAT, *JA?*

NO!

YOU ENGLISH HAVE GREAT CULTURE AND GREAT HISTORY, BUT YOU KNOW NOTHING OF THE GRASS YOU WALK ON! YOU AGREE, *JA?*

NO!

I THINK YOU ARE ONE WHO THINKS DOG ROSE *BITES*, JA?

NO!

YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE HIM! HE'S ONLY A LITTLE OVER A YEAR OLD, AND THE ONLY WORD HE KNOWS IN ENGLISH IS *NO!*

THEN WE ARE *SAME!* IN GERMAN, I ONLY KNOW TO SAY *JA!*

RATBY! RATBY STATION!

DLIN DLI

HERE'S THE TRAIN! IT BREAKS MY HEART TO LEAVE LIKE THIS, BUT I'M SURE CLARA-LUCIA WILL UNDERSTAND!

I GOT A VERY SHORT LETTER FROM MY JONATHAN. HE ASKED ME TO COME STRAIGHT TO *MOUSICH!*

DON'T WORRY, MINNINA! PLEASE GO! YOUR FRIEND IS IN *GOOD HANDS!* YOU'LL SEE, MY FRIEND WILL--

YOLALAAA! SETTOOOON! YOU WAIT FOR ME, JA?

RATBY

VAN HELSING! I WAS JUST TALKING ABOUT...

...YOU!

CONK

A WHILE LATER, AT THE WESTERNA HOUSE...

COLD RED BEET SOUP! BEET FRITTERS! BEET PASTA!

WELL? HAS YOUR *EXPERT* COME TO ANY CONCLUSIONS?

SHHH! LET HIM WORK! HE'S A GENIUS!

BEAUTIFUL LADY WITH HUGE NOSTRILS, YOU ACCEPT *WHITE FLOWERS,* JA?

Y-YES! YOU'RE A GENTLEMAN! BUT HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT TAKING A LITTLE *BATH?*

WHAT YOU SMELL IS *GARLIC FLOWER!* NOW YOU TELL ME OF MAN YOU MET IN PARK!

OH, HE'S SPECIAL! AS I'M ALWAYS TELLING MY FRIEND MINNINA, MEN DON'T REALLY HAVE *STYLE...*

...UNLESS THEY HAVE *UNDEAD SMILES! HEEE!*

≒GULP!≒

OOOH! BEETS IN TOMATO SAUCE! BEETLES IN BEET SAUCE!

HEY! WHY DID SHE COME TO WHEN YOU SHOWED HER THOSE FLOWERS?

:SNIFF!: AND WHAT'S THAT POTENT SMELL?

THIS IS GARLIC, JA? AND FROM NOW ON, EVERY WINDOW AND EVERY DOOR IN HOUSE MUST BE FULL OF IT!

UH-OH! HE'S A CRANKY ONE!

YOU DO AS I SAY, JA? AND YOU WILL SEE THAT BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WITH BIG NOSE SLEEPS SOUNDLY!

SNOOORE!

ALTHOUGH CAN'T SAY SAME FOR REST OF HOUSE!

LATER, IN THE SHELTER FOR MERRY SAILORS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR WITS...

THAT'S A LORD WHO THINKS HE'S THE PIRATE BLACKBEARD! THAT OTHER ONE CAME BACK FROM THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE, AND EVER SINCE THEN HE WEARS NOTHING BUT BERMUDA SHORTS...

...AND HERE'S THE MOST INTERESTING CASE! *PETE PEGFIELD!* I HAVE TO KEEP HIM LOCKED UP BECAUSE OF HIS FITS OF RAGE!

HE HAS THE INEXPLICABLE HABIT OF COLLECTING FILES! NAIL FILES, IRON FILES, STONE FILES...

=SIGH! SOB!=

HE COLLECTS THEM COMPULSIVELY, BUT HE *DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THEM*, AND THAT MAKES HIM VERY DISTRESSED!

=YAWN!=

WHY? WHY? POOR ME!

ALL IS THRILLING, BUT I'M LITTLE TIRED NOW, *JA?*

OF COURSE! EXCUSE ME, MY ESTEEMED COLLEAGUE! LET ME HELP YOU...

WHAT STRANGE TOOLS! *A HAMMER AND A WOODEN STAKE!*

YOU GIVE ME THAT, JA? THIS WON'T HELP US YET, JA?

I-I'M SORRY!

IT'S JUST THAT YOU HAVE SUCH STRANGE EQUIPMENT! THE *GARLIC*, FOR EXAMPLE! *=SNIFF!=* DO YOU HAVE IT IN THERE? *=SNIFF!=* I CAN STILL SMELL ITS--

BEFORE I GO NIGHT-NIGHT, *I TAKE SHOWER, JA?*

?

SOMETIME LATER, IN MOUSICH...

MINNINA! OH, MINNINA! WHAT A RELIEF IT IS TO SEE YOU! I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE I MANAGED TO ESCAPE THAT CASTLE!

BUT HOW DID YOU DO IT? I THOUGHT THREE *HORRIBLE CREATURES* WERE KEEPING YOU PRISONER!

HUH? WHO TOLD YOU THEY WERE HORRIBLE?

WELL, YOU WROTE THAT! I READ YOUR JOURNAL WHILE YOU WERE RESTING!

UM... WELL, OF COURSE! WHAT AM I SAYING? THEY WERE *UGLY!* THREE *WITCHES!* THREE *HARPIES!*

"THEY WERE THREE *MONSTERS* WHO KEPT ME LOCKED AWAY *AGAINST* MY WILL!"

A BIT MORE CASSEROLE, *SWEETIE PIE?*

=BURP!= NO, THANKS! I THINK I'M *STUFFED!*

TRY MY SAVORY TART, MY *TUBBY LITTLE MOUSE!*

THOSE CREATURES ONLY ATE...*BEETS!* THEY LOVED THOSE *RED, BLOODY* VEGETABLES MORE THAN ANYTHING!

OH!

THEY *FORCED* ME TO EAT HUNDREDS, *THOUSANDS,* OF BEET-BASED DISHES!

OH-HO!

ONE MORE AND I'D HAVE *TURNED INTO* A BEET! IT WAS ONLY MY LOVE FOR YOU THAT ALLOWED ME TO ESCAPE AND--

OH-HO-HO!

EXCUSE ME, BUT ARE YOU WINCING OR LAUGHING LIKE SANTA CLAUS?

MY FRIEND CLARA-LUCIA! EVER SINCE A *WOLF*...OR AN *OSTRICH*...OR A MYSTERIOUS *MAN* CAME TO RATBY...

...SHE HASN'T DONE ANYTHING BUT TALK ABOUT *BEETS!*

OH!

...AND SO, IN HER TELEGRAM, MINNINA SAYS SHE TOOK THE FIRST TRAIN BACK TO RATBY...

...ALTHOUGH SHE DOESN'T EXPLAIN THE REASON FOR HER HASTE!

SHE FINDS HER LOVE AND WANTS COME BACK QUICK!

RIGHT! YOU ALWAYS KNOW WHAT TO SAY! YOU USE YOUR HEAD!

JA! I HAVE IT SCREWED IN RIGHT PLACE! ON *ELBOWS!*

BUT NOW TELL ME, HOW IS MISS--

HAH! HAH! HAH!

AHEM! BETTER! MUCH BETTER!

SHE HAS FINALLY SLEPT! SHE'S NOT HERSELF YET, BUT SHE'S ALREADY LAUGHING LIKE A *BABY DEER!*

AND EATIN' LIKE A *PIG!*

CRUNCH CRACK

THOSE GARLIC FLOWERS ARE A MIRACULOUS CURE!

JA! BUT IS NECESSARY FOR THEM TO *KEEP PROTECTING* GIRL WITH HUGE NOSTRILS!

AND IS IMPORTANT THAT *WINDOWS AND DOORS* OF HER ROOM STAY SHUT AT NIGHT!

CAN I ASK WHY?

IS TOO SOON TO SAY! IN MY HEART I HOPE *I AM WRONG!* BUT WE'LL SEE HOW BIG-NOSED DAMSEL BEHAVES!

WHAT A COW! WHAT A CREATURE!

AND WHAT *JAWS!*

CRACK

CRUNCH

SOMETIME LATER, LATE AT NIGHT...

MINNINA!

CLARA-LUCIA! I CAME STRAIGHT HERE FROM THE STATION!

HOW'S YOUR JONATHAN?

HE'S BETTER, BUT HE NEEDED SOME *BICARBONATE OF SODA!* YOU SHOULD REST, TOO. YOU LOOK... *SNIFF*... *PALE!*

OH! WHY IS THE WINDOW *CLOSED?* THE AIR IS *STALE!* AND WHAT ARE THESE *SMELLY FLOWERS?*

A VERY KIND GENTLEMAN BROUGHT THEM FOR ME, AND--

YOU AND YOUR SUITORS! YOU CAN NEVER HOLD THEM OFF! BUT NOW THAT I'M HERE...

...THESE HORRIBLE WEEDS ARE *GOING!* AND AS FOR THAT WINDOW, FROM NOW ON...

"...IT MUST REMAIN *OPEN!*"

MMM! B-BEETS WITH RHUBARB! BEARDED BEETS IN BEET SAUCE...

WOOSH!

WHAT WAS...OH! IT'S *YOU!*

AH! WHAT A WONDERFUL DAY! EVEN THE FOG'S A DISTANT MEMORY!

DON'T YOU AGREE, CLARA...

...LUCIA?

FISH

N-NOOOOO!

I WARNED YOU! I SAID DON'T TAKE FLOWERS FROM ROOM AND KEEP WINDOWS SHUT, JA?

NO! NO! NO!

CHEER UP, MINNINA! YOU COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN!

NO! NO! NO!

AHEM... I UNDERSTAND! I TOO, IN GERMAN, CAN ONLY SAY *JA!*

BUT IF YOU'RE NOT GERMAN, WHY DO YOU SPEAK LIKE THAT?

AND IF YOU HAVE BIG *EARS,* WHY NOT LISTEN AND *BE QUIET?*

HE'S ACTUALLY *DUTCH!*

AND HE'S *PRICKLY AS A PEAR!*

NOW *DAMAGE IS DONE!* I SAY NOW WE MUST *DIG HOLE* IN GREENHOUSE AND *BURY POOR GIRL!*

=GULP!=

BUT THEN... YOU'RE SAYING THAT CLARA-LUCIA... SH-SHE'S...

WELL, *JA!* SHE IS *PALE AS LIVING BEET!*

ALAS, WHAT I FEARED FROM BEGINNING HAS HAPPENED! UNLUCKY DAMSEL WITH UNBEATABLE NOSTRILS...

"...HAS TURNED INTO HUGE BEET! AND NOW ONLY THING TO DO IS PLANT HER AND WAIT FOR ROOTS!"

END OF FIRST HALF

DRACULA

FROM MINNINA MURRAY'S JOURNAL: "WESTERNA VILLA, RATBY--I ALSO FEEL THE NEED TO WRITE! AFTER **WATERING** CLARA-LUCIA..."

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE TURNED INTO A BEET! SHE WAS SO GRACEFUL! SO *SWEET!*

OH, BUT SHE STILL IS! IN FACT, SHE IS *SUGAR BEET!*

ALAS, I JUST HEARD *MOUSE'S STORY,* AND ALL WORST FEARS ARE CONFIRMED!

GIRLS HE FLED FROM HAVE SAME POWER AS MASTER! *COUNT DRACULA!*

≠GULP!≠

BUT COUNT NEEDS NOT TO *FEED* VICTIMS TO *TURN THEM INTO BEETS, JA?*

"MONSTER ONLY NEEDS TO **WHISPER** *HORRIFYING RECIPES! AND AS HE DOES, HE* **NIBBLES** *OUTER EARS!"*

THIS EXPLAINS *TINY* ***HOLES*** IN BIG-NOSED COW'S EARS! YOU SAW THEM, *JA?*

SO WHAT? PIERCING YOUR EARS IS FASHIONABLE! FOR *EARRINGS!*

REALLY? SOMEDAY I MUST STUDY *MYSTERY OF MYSTERIES!* WOMEN!

BACK TO DRACULA...

IN EASTERN EUROPE, MONSTERS LIKE HIM ARE CALLED *NOSFERATU!* THEY LIVE UNDERGROUND, AS *LIVING BEETS!*

THEY FEED ON *LIFE FORCE*, TURNING OTHER CREATURES INTO *VEGETABLES*, JA?

AS FOR COUNT'S MOTIVES, I THINK HE IS HERE FOR HER! FOR *MISS MINNINA!*

=GASP!=

WHEN YOU WERE IN CASTLE, YOU SAID YOU SHOWED DRACULA *PORTRAIT OF HER*, JA?

JA... AHEM... *YES!*

WELL THEN, *BIG FEMALE EARS* MUST BE IRRESISTIBLE TEMPTATION FOR HIM!

I SAY! IS HE IMPLYING THAT I HAVE *BIG EARS?*

AHEM! HE MUST HAVE MISSPOKEN, DEAR!

HE MUST HAVE TRIED TO GET CLOSE TO MISS, BUT SHE IS MAYBE *RESISTANT TO BEETS, JA?*

THAT'S RIGHT, I *CAN'T STAND* BEETS!

YOU HEAR? EXPLAINS WHY COUNT DECIDED TO FEED *FIRST* ON HER FRIEND *CLARA-LUCIA!* SHE WAS WEAKER AND MORE SUSCEPTIBLE!

BUT SOON I THINK HE COMES BACK AND CONVINCES HER TO DO WHAT HE WANTS! BECAUSE MONSTER IS *GREEDY* AND HAS INCREDIBLE *POWERS!*

HE IS NOT *REFLECTED* IN MIRROR BUT DOES MANY OTHER THINGS! HE CAN *HYPNOTIZE, FLY,* HIDE IN *FOG,* CONTROL *CLOUDS,* AND...

"...TRANSFORM INTO WOLF, BAT, OSTRICH, BLOODSUCKER! AND HE EVEN KNOWS HOW TO SAY..."

...I HASTENED OVER HASTILY, AS SOON AS I HEARD YOU HAMMERING ON THE HATCHWAY TO MY HOUSE!

NICE TONGUE TWISTER! BUT WHY DON'T YOU COME OUTSIDE, IN THE LIGHT?

UM! MY HAIR IS A MESS!

WELL, WE'VE BROUGHT THE STUFF! THE REST IS AT THE ADDRESSES ON THE PAPERS FOUND ON THE SHIP IN RATBY!

EXCELLENT! GO AROUND TO THE BACK AND LEAVE EVERYTHING IN THE BASEMENT!

OKAY! CAN I ASK WHAT YOU'RE DOING WITH ALL THAT SOIL?

SO MANY QUESTIONS! I SLEEP THERE! NOW GET MOVING! I HAVE TO TAKE A NAP!

?

...SO HE CAN DO WHAT I TELL YOU AND MUCH MORE, BUT HIS POWER ENDS WITH COMING OF *DAY!*

SO RIGHT NOW...

JA! HE RESTS IN *DARK* PLACE, LIKE UNDERGROUND OR *BASEMENT,* FULL OF *NATIVE SOIL,* OF COURSE!

I SAW HE HAD *SEVERAL CASKETS* CARRIED OUT OF HIS CASTLE!

OF COURSE! IF *HE* IS HERE, THEN *THEY* ARE HERE TOO!

SO TO FIGHT HIM, WE MUST FIND THEM *MOST QUICKLY* AND FILL THEM WITH *PLANT HE HATES!*

GARLIC! YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE GARLIC PLANT!

WELL DONE! GIRL WITH *EARS THE SIZE OF TENTS* UNDERSTANDS MY INTENT!

DID HE MISSPEAK AGAIN? HUH? HUH?

C-CALM DOWN! YOU KNOW HE'S A STRANGE GUY!

MANY COMBINE THEM, BUT FEW KNOW THAT GARLIC AND BEET IS LIKE *CATS AND DUCKS!*

AHEM! CATS AND DOGS!

IS WHAT I *SAID!*

I'M COMING TO LOOK FOR THOSE CASKETS TOO!

YOU'D BETTER NOT, DEAR!

WE BROUGHT YOU TO SETTON'S ASYLUM BECAUSE YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SAFE AT CLARA-LUCIA'S HOUSE! WE'LL BE BACK BEFORE NIGHTFALL!

YOU'LL JUST NEED TO STAY IN THE GUEST ROOM, ON THE TOP FLOOR! WE'LL FILL THE DOORS AND WINDOWS WITH GARLIC!

LATER, IN LONDON...

MOUSEFORD STREET! RATTING HILL! RATTADILLY...

...I REMEMBER ALL THE ADDRESSES OF THE HOUSES THAT MONSTER BOUGHT THROUGH MY LAW FIRM!

GOOD! ALL WE NEED TO DO IS SPLIT UP AND FIND THEM WITHOUT ANYONE *SEEING* US!

THE REAL TRICK WILL BE DOIN' IT WITHOUT ANYONE *SMELLIN'* US, CONSIDERIN' WHAT WE'RE HAULIN' AROUND!

ANYWAY, I STILL DON'T GET WHY WE HAVEN'T GONE TO THE *LAW!*

AND TELL THEM WHAT? TO CHASE AFTER A GUY WHO COULD TURN ALL OF THE ENGLISH INTO BEETS?

ROCKY'S NOT ENTIRELY WRONG, HORACE! IF I DIDN'T TRUST VAN HELSING *COMPLETELY,* I'D DOUBT HIS THEORIES TOO!

YOU KNOW INCREDIBLE THINGS ABOUT VEGETABLES AND SUPERNATURAL EVENTS! WHERE DID YOU LEARN THEM?

OH! AS BOY I WORKED IN *FRUIT AND VEGETABLE* STORE!

HUH?

AHEM! BUT IT WAS *VEEERY SUPERNATURAL* FRUIT AND VEGETABLE!

OH, OKAY THEN!

THAT EVENING, IN CARFAX...

MY BLASTED FEET ARE SORE! IN TEXAS WE DON'T WALK, WE *RIDE!*

=HUFF HUFF!= I STILL DON'T KNOW HOW WE MANAGED TO FILL ALL THOSE *CASKETS* WITH GARLIC!

THE REAL PROBLEM WAS GETTING INTO THE COUNT'S HOUSES WITHOUT THE *BOBBIES** SUSPECTING ANYTHING!

*NICKNAME FOR THE LONDON POLICE

COME, COME! SUN IS SINKING AND THERE IS STILL MONSTER'S *LAST MANSION!*

DO YOU THINK HE'S ALREADY *AWAKE?*

IS VERY LIKELY, *JA?* THAT'S WHY I SAY IS BETTER TO USE...

=GULP!= A HAMMER AND A WOODEN STAKE?

NO, NO! THIS IS *VERY LAST SOLUTION!* I WAS TALKING OF *GARLIC NECKLACES!* YOU WEAR THEM, *JA?*

SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR FASCINATING CONVERSATION, BUT IS THAT THE VILLA WE'RE LOOKING FOR?

=GULP!=

IT LOOKED MUCH MORE WELCOMING BEFORE HE BOUGHT IT!

EVERYTHING LOOKS MORE CHEERFUL IN *DAYLIGHT!*

BUT, MY DEAR AND DARING FRIENDS, WE SHALL READY OURSELVES TO FACE THE NIGHT'S *DARK DEPTHS!* SO *ONWARD!*

WELL... WHAT IS IT?

IT'S...*UM*...THE WAY YOU JUST *SPOKE!*

AH, I ASK PARDON! WITH NERVES, I SPEAK WITH *MANY ERRORS OF MISTAKE,* JA?

FROM MINNINA MURRAY'S JOURNAL: "RATBY SHELTER--I CAN'T SLEEP! MY THOUGHTS ARE WITH JONATHAN...

"I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIM! THE SUN HAS ALMOST SET, AND HE STILL HASN'T COME BACK!

"ALSO, **TERRIBLE MOANS** ARE COMING FROM THE CELLS BELOW..."

WHY? WHY?

"I THINK IT'S THE PATIENT **PETE PEGFIELD!**"

=SIGH! SOB!= FILES! FILES AND **MORE FILES!** SO **APPEALING**, YET SO **USELESS!**

IF SOMETHING APPEALS TO YOU, YOU SHOULDN'T TRY TO ***RESIST!*** BELIEVE ME! I KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THAT!

?

THIS IS THE *LAST CASKET!* STAY BACK WHILE I OPEN IT!

CREEEAK

NOTHING! THAT MONSTER ISN'T HERE, EITHER!

WHO KNOWS? MAYBE HE MOVED TO A *FLOWERPOT!*

LET'S THINK! WE'VE VISITED ALL HIS RESIDENCES! IF THE COUNT ISN'T IN THIS GLOOMY VILLA EITHER, THEN WHERE--

MINNIA!

I'VE GOTTEN RID OF THE *GARLIC* IN THE CELL, LIKE YOU ASKED! BUT I STILL CAN'T SEE YOU! CAN YOU TELL ME WHO YOU ARE? WHERE ARE YOU?

I AM A *WICKED THOUGHT,* AND I LIVE IN THE *BLACK HEARTS* OF MEN!

IT'S USUALLY NO PROBLEM FOR ME TO SLIDE THROUGH CRACKS OR CROSS DOORWAYS...

BUT THIS WHOLE BUILDING IS FESTERING WITH THAT DISGRACEFULLY SMELLY PLANT! *YUCK!*

GULP!

W-WHAT DO YOU WANT?

RELAX, MY *VICTIM* IS ON THE TOP FLOOR! I JUST DROPPED IN BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T MANAGE TO PUT SO MUCH GARLIC IN THIS CELL!

AHEM! ABOUT THAT... I'LL REMIND YOU THAT WE HAD A *DEAL!*

THUMP

IN EXCHANGE FOR MY HELP, YOU PROMISED TO TELL ME WHAT ALL THESE... *THINGS*... ARE FOR!

HMM! SINCE THAT BLASTED PLANT IS *SUPPRESSING MY POWERS,* IF I WANT TO GET OUT OF THIS CAGE, I'LL HAVE TO DO MUCH MORE THAN THAT...

...I'LL HAVE TO TEACH YOU HOW TO *USE* THEM!

?

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

PEGFIELD USED AN *IRON FILE* TO... FILE THE IRON!

CLEVER FELLA!

THEN HE USED A *WOOD FILE* TO BREAK THE *WOODEN STAKE* THAT WAS BLOCKING THE DOOR!

WE'VE GOTTA *STOP* HIM!

IMAGINE WHAT HE COULD DO WITH A *CALLUS FILE!*

I'M WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE! LOOK, DR. SETTON! YOUR PATIENT *MOVED ALL THE GARLIC* WHEN HE WENT UPSTAIRS!

=GULP!= YOU'RE RIGHT!

DO YOU THINK--

THE COUNT MUST HAVE *HYPNOTIZED* PEGFIELD AND FORCED HIM TO *CLEAR HIS PATH!*

MINNINA! ANSWER ME, MINNINA!

SLAM

SH-SHE'S RESTING, RIGHT? TELL ME SHE JUST DOZED OFF, AND SHE'S DREAMING SWEET DREAMS!

YOU MUST BE STRONG, *JA?* REMEMBER GIRL WITH BIG FRYING PAN EARS HATES BEETS, *JA?*

Y-YES...I MEAN...*JA!*

MMM! BEARDED BEETS WITH SWISS BEETS! FRIED BEARDED BEETS! BEETS IN RED WINE...

HUH? DID SOMEONE JUST SHOUT "NOOOOO" IN THE DISTANCE?

THAT HAPPENS AROUND HERE!

SOME PEOPLE FIND THE ENGLISH A LITTLE *COLD!* BUT I THINK YOU'RE *HOT-BLOODED* AND A BIT *MELODRAMATIC!*

TELL ME WHY YOU'RE FOLLOWING ME! I HAVEN'T MANAGED TO DITCH YOU, EVEN WHEN I TURNED INTO A *BAT!*

YOU'VE OPENED MY EYES TO THE USE OF FILES AND SUCH! ⁝HUFF!⁝ YOU'VE BECOME MY IDOL! ⁝PANT!⁝ MY *MASTER!*

OH, DON'T OVERDO IT! I WAS RIGHT, YOU SEE? YOU ENGLISHMEN ARE MELODRAM--

N-NOOOOO!

⁝GULP!⁝

MY BEDDING! SOMEONE HAS DEFILED IT! CONTAMINATED IT!

THAT HAPPENED TO ME IN MY CELL A LOT--*FLEAS!* BUT ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS CHANGE THE *BED SHEETS* AND--

I ONLY SLEEP ON MY *NATIVE SOIL*, YOU IDIOT! AND NOW IT'S *HOPELESSLY CONTAMINATED!*

I HAVE A TERRIBLE FEELING! FOLLOW ME! WE HAVE TO GO STRAIGHT TO MY LONDON HOMES!

POOF

FIRST A BAT, NOW A WOLF! BUT NO HORSE AND SADDLE, HUH?

FROM **GOOFY VAN HELSING'S NOTES:** "I **HYPNOTIZE** MISS MINNINA WITH **POCKET WATCH** TO MAKE HER STOP SHOUTING HORRIBLE RECIPES!

"AH, WONDERFUL! WE FIND OUT RIGHT AWAY THAT GIRL WITH UMBRELLA EARS HAS **PSYCHIC CONTACT** WITH TORMENTOR, **JA?**

"THANKS TO THIS, WE NOW KNOW THAT COUNT HAS NO MORE PLACE FOR SLEEPING AND WANTS TO **RETURN TO HIS COUNTRY RIGHT AWAY!**

"PEGFIELD HELPS HIM FIND **CLEAN BOXES,** SHIP THAT SAILS ON **BLACK SEA,** AND COMFY **FUZZY SLIPPERS WITH RABBIT EARS!**

"DRACULA IS **TRAVELING** TO NATIVE HOME, **JA?** BUT MR. RATKER IS STILL DETERMINED TO **FOLLOW HIM** AND TRACK HIM DOWN!

"HE SAYS NOW COUNT HAS **TASTED** BIG EARS, SOONER OR LATER HE COMES BACK AND FIXES **BIG-EARED MOUSE** LIKE **BIG-NOSED FRIEND!**

"I SAY IS TRUE, SO HE PREPARES AND BRINGS MISS MINNINA, WHO GIVES IMPORTANT INFORMATION THANKS TO **HYPNOTIC POCKET WATCH!**

"PROBLEM IS THAT WHAT WE KNOW OF COUNT, HE **MUST KNOW OF US...**

"SO WE MUST **SPLIT UP!** TO CONFUSE HIS MIND AND REACH OUR GOAL!"

I LOVE *EPISTOLARY NOVELS, JA?* THEY ALLOW MANY EXPLANATIONS AND *SKIPPING CHUNKS OF TIME!*

W-WHAT A STRANGE TRANCE! DID YOU SAY SOMETHING, PROFESSOR VAN HELSING?

NOTHING AT ALL, MISS! YOU DON'T NEED *SMALL CLOCK* NOW, *JA?* THE *COUNT'S CASTLE* IS CLOSE...

"...AND OUR BRAVE FRIENDS MUST BE, TOO!"

LOOK AT THOSE *HUGE CLOUDS!* THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY!

DRACULA CAN CONTROL THE CLOUDS! MAYBE HE WANTS TO STOP THE *LAST RAYS OF SUNLIGHT* FROM COMING THROUGH!

AWOOO! AWOOO!

=*GULP!*= FROM BAD TO WORSE! IT LOOKS AS IF THOSE WOLVES WANT TO *CUT US OFF!*

I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF THAT MONSTER SUMMONED THEM, USING SOME KIND OF *BLACK MAGIC!*

FWEEEEEEEE

FWEEEEEEEE

Wolf Whistle / For Sea Dogs Use Underwater

SCAM

AIII! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING, YOU INCOMPETENT IMBECILE!

SORRY, MASTER! THE ROAD IS ROCKY!

ACTUALLY, YOU'RE *DISTRACTED!* AND WASTING PRECIOUS TIME!

IT'S NOT MY FAULT! YOU NEED BOTH HANDS TO GIVE YOURSELF A *PROPER MANICURE!*

GRRR! I NEVER SHOULD HAVE TAUGHT HIM HOW TO USE A *NAIL FILE!*

PATIENCE! I *FEEL* THE CASTLE CLOSE BY! WE'LL GET THERE BEFORE *SUNSET!*

AND ALSO, MY *SERVANTS* HAVE BEEN SLEEPING IN THE RESTORATIVE SOIL! THEY'RE NOT *WEAK* LIKE ME!

*"THEY'LL DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO **WAYLAY** MY PURSUERS!"*

:SNIFF!: :SNIFF!:

LOOK! THAT *IRRESISTIBLE SMELL* IS COMING FROM OVER THERE!

HMM! BETTER NOT TO STOP! COULD BE *TRAP!*

OH, COME ON! NOW YOU'RE BEING *PARANOID!*

THIS WAY TO TAVERN CAVERN

TOURIST MENU

DINNER ~~AT THE CAVE~~ BY CANDLELIGHT

BLAM BLAM

AMAZING!

SOCK THUD

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN! I'VE NEVER SEEN *ANYTHING LIKE IT!*

WHEN HE SAID HE WAS A HUNTER, HE WASN'T EXAGGERATING!

YIPPEE-KI-YAY! DON'T BE SHY, PUPPIES! BRING IT ON!

WISHH

SOCK

YOU GO ON AHEAD! I'VE GOT THIS!

B-BUT... YOU CAN'T DO THIS ALONE!

YOU'RE JOKIN', RIGHT? THESE ARE JUST SWEET LI'L *TEDDY BEARS* COMPARED TO THE *WILD RACCOONS* BACK HOME!

BLAM BAM

EEEP!

BLAM BLAM

DID YOU HEAR THAT? THEY SOUND LIKE *GUNSHOTS!* OUR FRIENDS ARE *VERY CLOSE!*

IN THAT CASE, LET'S ASK THESE *NICE WAITRESSES* TO KEEP A *TABLE FREE!* WE CAN DO THAT, RIGHT?

OF COURSE! CONSIDER IT *RESERVED!* AFTER ALL, AS YOU CAN SEE, IT'S THE *SLOW SEASON!*

BEET PIE?

LISTEN, MISS! WHILE I FIND WAY TO ENTER KITCHEN AND MAKE *SPECIAL RECIPE*, YOU *DON'T TOUCH FOOD!*

WHY NOT? IT LOOKS SO *DELICIOUS!*

BUT IF YOU TRY IT, YOU BECOME ONCE AND FOR ALL *LIKE THEM!*

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? *TALL* AND *STYLISH?*

NO! *A SERVANT OF DRACULA!*

WH-WHOSE SERVANT?

THE MONSTER! NOSFERATU! YOU REMEMBER WHY WE CAME HERE, *JA?*

OH, YES! OF COURSE! NOW I REMEMBER EVERYTHING!

SO YOU'RE THE TERRIBLE CREATURES MY JONATHAN TOLD ME ABOUT, HUH?

GULP!

GRRRRR

G-GIRLS! OUR CUSTOMER DOESN'T SEEM HAPPY!

SH-SHOULD WE *BRING HER THE CHECK?*

L-LET'S JUST SAY IT'S *ON THE HOUSE!*

YAAAH! YAAAH! WE'RE HERE! IT'S OVER THERE!

CLIP CLOP

WE HAVE TO REACH THEM BEFORE THEY SHUT THEMSELVES IN THE CASTLE!

YAAAH! YAAAAAH!

:GASP!:

GET MOVING! WHIP THOSE BEASTS!

I WOULD, MASTER! BUT I DON'T WANT TO *RUIN MY NAILS!*

BAM

:GULP!:

THUMP

SBAM

CRASH

GRRR! YOU USELESS IDIOT! EE...

...EEEEEH! WHAT'S THAT *HORRIBLE* STENCH?

JAAA! JAAA! IS WORKING! MY GARLIC BROTH MAKES BARRIER AND DULLS POWERS OF MONSTER!

RRUU

WOBLE

THIS IS BETWEEN YOU AND ME, YOU GOOD-FOR-NOTHING COUNT!

HMM... I SENSE THAT, MASTER OR NOT, IT'S TIME FOR ME TO *MOVE ON!*

GOTCHA!

THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN!

ZOMP

STOMP

BOOF

SKREE SKREEE!

FLAP FLAP FLAP

GULP!

PAFF

?

COOOT! CO-COOOT!

OH, JONATHAN!

BE CALM! ONLY TRANSFORMATION YOU MUST FEAR IS ONE INTO...

PUFF

...GULP! BLOODSUCKER!

LET ME GO! I'LL RUIN YOU! I'LL *DRAIN* YOUR FINANCES!

I'LL *SUCK* THE LIFE OUT OF YOU! I'LL *BLEED* YOU DRY! I'LL *FINE* YOU! I'LL *TAX* YOU! I'LL *LEVY* YOU! I'LL...

FLAP FLAP

BUT THAT'S...A *TAX COLLECTOR!*

OF COURSE! YOU KNOW *OTHER KIND* OF BLOODSUCKER?

PUFF
PAFF
PIFF
NOW YOU WATCH! COUNT BEGINS TO *MIX UP AND CONFUSE FORMS!* IS ON *LAST LEGS!*
UNFORTUNATELY, I FEAR JONATHAN IS TOO!
OOOF!
BOOM
FLAP FLAP
AH AH
IF *LIGHT* HITS MONSTER, HIS TRANSFORMATION *FREEZES FOREVER* AND HE LOSES POWERS!
YOU LOOK! IS *BREAK* IN CLOUDS! IF SMALL, BRAVE MOUSE HOLDS ON A LITTLE MORE...

...IF HE KEEPS HOLD OF COUNT... AND COUNT IS HIT BY LAST, WEAK...

...SUNBEAM...

=G-GULP!=

AAAAARGH!

FROM JONATHAN RATKER'S JOURNAL: **"SEVEN YEARS AGO,** WE ALL HAD AN EXTRAORDINARY AND TERRIBLE ADVENTURE...

"...AND THE HAPPINESS WE ENJOY TODAY MUST BE A REWARD FOR EVERYTHING WE SUFFERED!

"MINNINA AND I ARE NOW MARRIED! ALTHOUGH WE'VE MOVED **VERY FAR NORTH!**

"WE WANTED TO STAY FAR AWAY FROM COUNTRIES WITH A **TEMPERATE CLIMATE,** WHERE BEETS CAN GROW!

"ROCKY P. SASSIS IS RAISING **CARPATHIAN WOLVES!** APPARENTLY THEY'RE MUCH **TAMER** THAN WILD RACCOONS!

"BUZ SETTON HAS TURNED HIS ASYLUM INTO A MODERN **FRUIT AND VEGETABLE** STORE FOR PARANORMAL PHENOMENA!

MANDRAKE

"HORACE SORCHWOOD HAS WRITTEN A **BOOK** ABOUT OUR INCREDIBLE ADVENTURES, USING A CURIOUS PEN NAME!

DRACULA

DRACULA

DRACULA

"AS FOR PEGFIELD, WE HEARD THAT HE MOVED TO PERU, NEAR **LIMA...**

"...WHILE IN THE WOODS OF BEETSYLVANIA, SOME SWEAR THEY'VE SEEN A **HAIRY OSTRICH** WITH **BAT WINGS** WHO WEARS **BUNNY SLIPPERS!"**

VROLOK! VROLOK!

BLAM

BLAM

"MINNINA DIDN'T WANT TO TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO **DRACULA'S SERVANTS!** AND I THINK IT'S BETTER NOT TO ASK!

"AS FOR CLARA-LUCIA, SHE HAS COMPLETELY RECOVERED AND WRITES OFTEN! SHE DOESN'T HAVE SO MANY SUITORS ANYMORE, FOR ONE SIMPLE REASON...

"...TO CURE HER, VAN HELSING MADE HER WEAR **SMELLY EARRINGS** MADE OF **TINY GARLIC FLOWERS!**

"HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN STAND THEIR SMELL, BUT HE'S HAPPY TO BE NEAR HER! THAT WAY HE CAN STUDY... THE **MYSTERY OF MYSTERIES!**

"AS FOR THE **HAMMER AND WOODEN STAKE,** NONE OF US EVER UNDERSTOOD WHAT THEY WERE FOR!"

BUT YOU DO, JA? JA!

THUMP THUMP

END

ABOUT THE ORIGINAL AUTHOR

ABRAHAM "BRAM" STOKER

(1847–1912)

Abraham "Bram" Stoker was an Irish author, and one of the most acclaimed authors of the Victorian Age. *Dracula* is regarded as one of the greatest horror novels of all time.

Bram Stoker was born in Clontarf, Ireland, on November 8, 1847. His father and mother had seven children. As a child, Stoker was severely ill and bedridden—it was during this time, while confined to his bed, that he was prompted to use his imagination. He was particularly interested in Irish folklore.

Stoker attended Trinity College, in Dublin, where he studied mathematics, and his first job was as a civil servant to British royals at the Dublin Castle. He also worked evenings as a writer for the local newspaper reviewing theater productions. His interest in the theater and the connections he made as a civil servant lead him to develop a friendship with English actor, Sir Henry Irving. Stoker worked as Irving's assistant for many years before Irving hired him as the acting manager at the famous Lyceum Theatre. During this time, Stoker focused on writing.

In 1875, Stoker's first novel, *The Primrose Path*, was published serially in the weekly magazine *The Shamrock*. He continued to write serialized stories and books throughout the late 1870s and 1880s, but Stoker's most notable work, *Dracula*, was not published until 1897. At the time of publication, *Dracula* did not achieve immediate success. It wasn't until 1931, following the release of the film, *Dracula*, starring actor Bela Lugosi as Count Dracula, that Stoker's novel rose to international prominence.

Bram Stoker's *Dracula* has been adapted countless times for the stage, film, and literature, and it has been used as the foundation for many vampire stories over the years. The character of Dracula has become a powerful figure in popular culture that continues to shock and inspire readers to this day.

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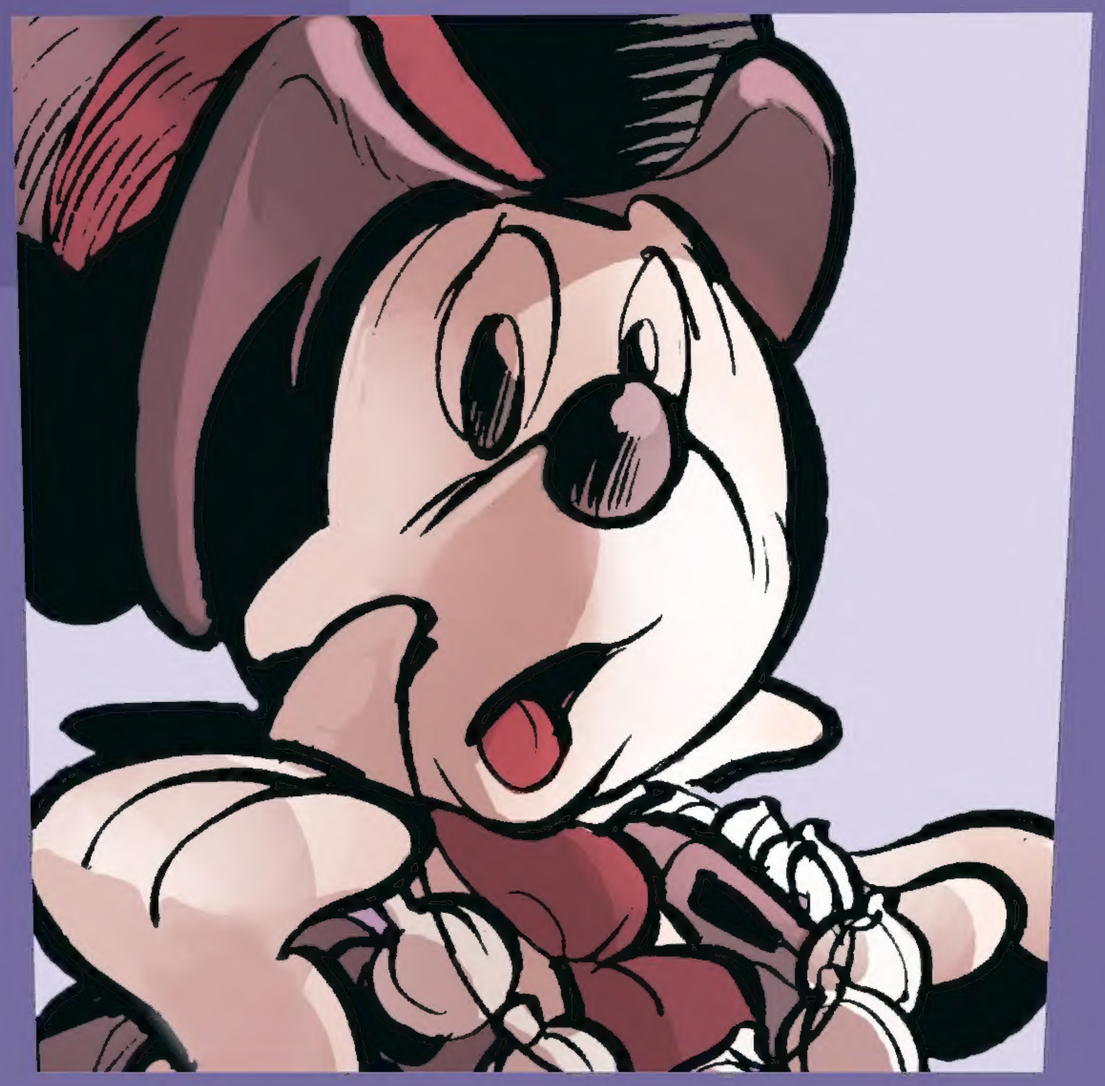
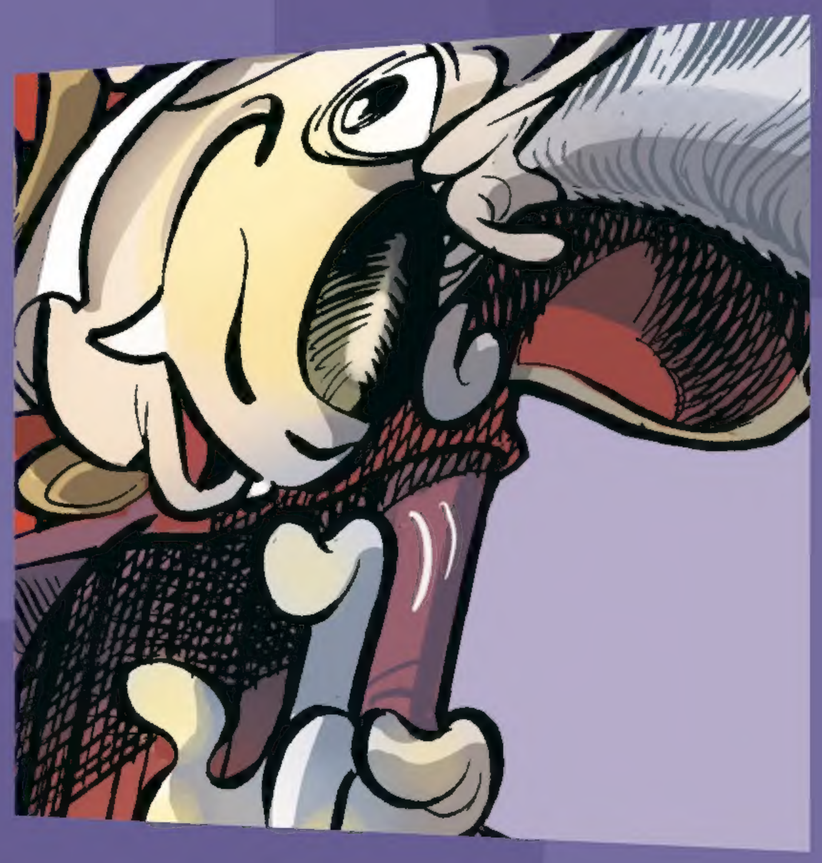
DRACULA

STARRING MICKEY MOUSE

Enter a world where vampires rise up from the shadows in this adaptation of Bram Stoker's *Dracula* starring Mickey and Minnie Mouse, and Goofy!

Trapped in Dracula's castle, Jonathan Ratker (Mickey Mouse) must find a way to escape and return to his love, Minnina. Meanwhile, Minnina and Doctor Goofy Van Helsing are dealing with the supernatural themselves . . . Could Dracula be after the one Jonathan Ratker loves most?





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